



McGREGOR W. SCOTT

*United States Attorney
Eastern District of California*

NEWS RELEASE

Sacramento
501 I Street, Suite 10-100
Sacramento, CA 95814
Tel 916/554-2700
TTY 916/554-2877

Fresno
2500 Tulare St., Suite 4401
Fresno, CA 93721
Tel (559) 497-4000
TTY (559) 497-4500

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Contact: Mary Wenger
(916) 554-2730
<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/cae>

FUGITIVE DUBBED "THE GRANDPA BANK ROBBER" GUILTY OF SERIAL BANK ROBBERY

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that WILLIAM MICHAEL LEVIN, 58, of Sacramento, California pleaded guilty today to two felony counts of bank robbery before United States District Court Judge Frank C. Damrell, Jr.

The case was investigated by the Sacramento Violent Crimes Task Force, which includes the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Sacramento County Sheriff's Office. During the early stages of the investigation, the task force dubbed the perpetrator "the grandpa bank robber" because surveillance photos depicted the robber to be of an age between late 50s to early 60s.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Michelle Rodriguez, who is prosecuting the case, LEVIN was arrested after the Sacramento Violent Crimes Task Force investigation gathered information regarding the grandpa bank robber's modus operandi for his serial robberies, LEVIN used demand notes. One of LEVIN's notes stated: "This a robbery. Put the money in the bag. I have a gun. Don't say a word and no one gets hurt." . The task force also discovered evidence linking LEVIN to the getaway vehicle used by the grandpa robber to flee from the robberies. Today, LEVIN admitted that he robbed the following banks: (1) on June 5, 2007, the U.S. Bank located at 1444 Ethan Way, Sacramento; (2) on July 25, 2007, the Bank of the West located at 2581 Fair Oaks Blvd., Sacramento; and (3) on July 31, 2007, the Guaranty Bank located at 2277 Watt Avenue, Sacramento. During this robbery, LEVIN also stated: "Give me your money. Put your hands where I can see them. Don't touch anything. No ink pads."

LEVIN faces up to 40 years in federal prison. He will receive a 3 year term of federal supervised release and an order of restitution. LEVIN's sentence will be enhanced for his threatened use of a gun. Although LEVIN pleaded guilty to two counts of bank robbery he admitted all three, and all of the robberies will factor in the computation of his sentence. However, the actual sentence will be determined at the discretion of the court after consideration of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables, and any applicable statutory sentencing factors. LEVIN is currently in custody and will be sentenced at the Robert T. Matsui U.S. Federal Courthouse located in Sacramento by Judge Damrell on December 10, 2007.

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